

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

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NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 IO-11

AID-05 /086 W

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O R 061315Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4015

INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY MADRID

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

EO 11652: NS

TAGS: PFOR AG

SUBJECT: SAHARA:

1. ALGERIAN MEDIA MARCH 5-6 CARRIED PRESS CONFERENCE GIVEN MARCH 5 IN ALGIERS BY POLISARIO MILITANTS IN WHICH PROCLAMATION OF EIGHT-MEMBER GOVERNMENT OF SAHRAOUI DEMOCRATIC ARAB REPUBLIC (SDAR) WAS READ. PROCLAMATION, WHICH DATED MARCH 4, WAS MADE SIMULTANEOUSLY IN ALGIERS, TRIPOLI, CONAKRY, BUJUMBURA AND TANANARIVE.

(TO BEST EMBASSY'S KNOWLEDGE, ONLY MALAGASY REPUBLIC AND BURUNDI HAVE RECOGNIZED SDAR; ALGERIA, LIBYA AND GUINEA

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REMAIN IN SYMPATHIZER CATEGORY.)

2. COMPOSITION OF GOVT IS AS FOLLOWS:

A. PRIME MINISTER: MOHAMED LAMINE OULD AHMED
(NOTE: AKA LAMINE AMIN)
MINISTER OF INTERIOR AND JUSTICE: MAHFOUD ALI BABA
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: HAKIM IBRAHIM (NOTE:
AKA HAKIM ADEL)
MINISTER OF DEFENSE: IBRAHIM GHALI OULD MOSTAFA
SECRETARY GENERAL OF MINISTRY OF FINANCE, COMMERCE
AND PROVISIONING: OMAR MOHAMED ALI
SECRETARY GENERAL OF MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, HEALTH AND
SOCIAL AFFAIRS: BOUELA OULD AHMED ZINE
SECRETARY GENERAL ON MINISTRY OF INFORMATION: MOHAMED
SALEM OULD SALEK
SECRETARY GENERAL OF MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND COMMUNI-
CATIONS: MANSOUR OULD OMAR

3. OF EIGHT MEN, ONLY AMIN LAMINE AND HAKIM ADEL ARE
KNOWN TO EMBASSY. FORMER IS AUTHENTIC SAHRAOUI TYPE WHO
HAS BEEN A LEADER IN BOTH MILITARY AND POLITICAL WINGS
OF POLISARIO. LATTER IS FORMER MAURITANIAN DIPLOMAT
IN ALGIERS WHO HAS BEEN ON NUMEROUS MISSIONS ABROAD
FOR POLISARIO AND HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN GROUP'S PROPAGANDA
ACTIVITIES. BOTH MEN ARE BELIEVED TO BE IN THEIR THIR-
TIES.

4. REMAINING SIX MEN ARE, WE SUSPECT, FROM POLISARIO'S
SELDOM-SEEN MILITARY WING WHICH HAS LITTLE CONTACT WITH
OUTSIDE WORLD. FOREIGN JOURNALIST HERE SAW GROUP OF
UNFAMILIAR SAHRAOUI TYPES HAVING DINNER IN AN ALGIERS
HOTEL MARCH 5. MEN WERE OLDER THAN NORMAL POLISARIO
MILITANT AND, UNLIKE ALGIERS-BASED CADRES, SPOKE NO
FRENCH. JOURNALIST SUSPECTS THEY MAY HAVE BEEN MEMBERS
OF NEW GOVERNMENT.

4. NOTABLE BY ABSENCE FROM NEW GOVT ARE AHMED
OULD BABA MISKE AND POLISARIO SECY GEN EL OUALI. FORMER
WAS LEADING POLISARIO SPOKESMAN HERE AND ABROAD AND,
AS OLDEST MAN IN POLITICAL WING, MAY HAVE EXPECTED MIN-
ISTERIAL POSTFOLIO. ALTHOUGH HE LED PRESS
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CONFERENCE AT WHICH GOVT ANNOUNCED, HE DID NOT ATTEND
DINNER JUST DESCRIBED. EL OUALI'S STAR, AFTER
PERIOD OF APPARENT ECLIPS, WAS SHINING BRIGHTLY WHEN
HE ANNOUNCED SDAR. HE SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN "CALLED
TO OTHER FUNCTIONS" ONCE MORE.

5. WE HAVE NO INFORMATION THAT POLISARIO HAS RETAKEN
AMGALA AND SUSPECT PROCLAMATION'S DATELINE REFERS TO

AMGALA REGION, JUST AS ANNOUNCEMENT OF SDAR CAME FROM
REGION OF BIR LAHLOU RATHER THAN FROM VILLAGE
ITSELF.

6. WE WILL SUBMIT FULLER BIO REPORT ON LAMINE AMIN
SHORTLY. LNE

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